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July 24, 1990

Congressman Gerry Studds  
Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee,  
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife Conservation  
and the Environment  
House Annex #2, Room 543  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Studds:

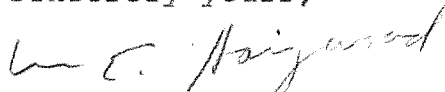
Any time a real estate broker writes a Congressman urging use of Federal funds to purchase private property for a wildlife refuge, there has to be a compelling reason.

Since I don't own any of the property in question, the only compelling reason for urging your support for HR2548 is my sincere conviction that the Laguna de Santa Rosa National Wildlife Refuge, proposed by Congressman Doug Bosco, deserves and must have the support of the Federal Government.

When appointed to the original Laguna Study Committee by the Sebastopol City Council in 1987, I was somewhat cynical about the enthusiasm of the environmentalists and nature lovers for "saving the Laguna" -- particularly since some of their objectives involved private property. After serving on the Committee for better than a year, I became convinced by the sheer weight of evidence that this was one "nature preserve" that deserved to be preserved for the benefit of the public and future generations. I also am convinced that only the Federal government has the clout needed to obtain cooperation and quick response from a multitude of lesser jurisdictions and make material progress before the opportunity is lost forever.

You will be hearing from many articulate, even poetic speakers about the emotional and spiritual values of the proposed preserve. As a businessman and firm believer in private property rights, I ask you to support HR2548 and the Laguna de Santa Rosa National Wildlife Refuge as an absolute necessity and irreplaceable opportunity to enrich the environment of our County, State and Nation.

Sincerely yours,



William E. Haigwood, GRI, CA-R  
President

b.c.: Kim Cordell ✓